

Concerto Köln

International
Artists &
Tours

More than 30 years of world class performances characterised by a highly individual sound and a passion for the re-discovery of forgotten repertoire mark out Concerto Köln as one of today's leading orchestras for Historically Informed Performance. With one foot firmly rooted in Köln's musical life, the orchestra is a regular guest at important musical venues worldwide and stands for excellence in the interpretation of early music. The "Opus Klassik" award in 2023 for the album "Pisendel," recorded by Concerto Köln with its concertmaster Mayumi Hirasaki, once again proves the ensemble's captivating joy of playing.

The concert calendar for the 2023/24 season features many highlights. The season kicked off with a celebrated opera production of George Frideric Handel's "Flavio" at the Bayreuth Baroque Opera Festival 2023. The performance with an exceptional cast of singers can be experienced in a concert version at the Theater an der Wien in April 2024. Together with its honorary conductor Kent Nagano, Concerto Köln is working on an authentic interpretation of Bruckner's legendary Symphony No. 4, which will be performed in concerts in Duisburg and Linz, as well as at the Herrenchiemsee Festival. This season brings a reunion with Peter Dijkstra and the Nederlands Kamerkoor, and the award-winning program "Mirrors" with soprano Jeanine De Bique will be heard again.

Musical partners in 2024 include sopranos Julia Lezhneva and Katharina Konradi, Baroque scene rising star Max Volbers, violinist Shunske Sato, pianist Tobias Koch, and the WDR Radio Choir with Simon Halsey. With concerts conducted by Martijn Dendievel and Jakob Lehmann, Concerto Köln opens a series with exciting young conductors at the Kölner Philharmonie, demonstrating that the research work of the Cologne ensemble is currently a hotspot in performance practice. Mayumi Hirasaki, Evgeny Sviridov, and Shunske Sato, as permanent concertmasters and soloists, along with Artistic Director Alexander Scherf, represent the characteristic orientation of the self-governing orchestra.

The performance of "Die Walküre" as a continuation of the scientific-artistic grand project with Wagner's "Ring" tetralogy is certainly one of the most exciting offerings of the period in the original instruments scene in 2024. In collaboration with the Dresden Music Festival, Concerto Köln, under the direction of Maestro Kent Nagano, will present "Die Walküre" in Prague, Dresden, Amsterdam, Cologne, and Hamburg.

Concerto Köln interprets well-known repertoire in such a fresh and "striking" way (Die ZEIT), as if you were hearing it for the first time.

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Since 2008, the ensemble has been closely associated with the Berlin Classics label, but also remains active for other labels. The discography now includes more than 75 often award-winning recordings, including the Grammy Award-winning recording of Mozart's "Le nozze di Figaro" with René Jacobs.

No art without enthusiastic sponsors: the Federal Ministry for Culture and Science in North-Rhine Westphalia, the Kunststiftung Nordrhein-Westfalen, the Goethe-Institut, the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media and the Strecker Foundation support the ensemble in the realization of its musical projects and ideas.

Since 2009, there has also been a close partnership with MBL unique high end audio, which enables the orchestra to engage intensively with the sound and reproduction of its recordings.

Season 2023/2024

For any changes please ask Weigold & Böhm.